



WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 18, 1906.

MAXIM GORKY has become disgusted with the United States during the few days he has been in the country. He is convinced that the "American people are the same vulgar, spitting horde that Charles Dickens found them some fifty years ago." When Gorky landed in the United States he believed that the Americans were a fine, free people, who walked with their chests out and a consciousness of liberty. Now, after going up against the register of an American hotel, he says that personal liberty is as much hampered here as in Russia, and that his lecture tour has gone to pot. He does not much care, according to a dispatch from Paris, because all that he wants is to get out of the wretched country. But few people, it is believed, will lose any sleep over the fact that Gorky has shaken the dust of the United States from his feet. The country is already beset with troubles, and Americans have no desire to take upon themselves burdens not their own in the shape of issues brought to the birth by Russian revolutionists. Gorky says liberty is hampered in the United States as much as it is in Russia. This brings to mind an incident in connection with the Chicago riots of 1886 which resulted in the hanging of several anarchists for murdering policemen. A German, who had come to this country under false impressions, informed an acquaintance that he was about to return to the fatherland. He said he had been disappointed in the United States, as rich people were allowed to retain their property here as in the old country.

WHILE the horrors incident to the recent eruption of Mount Vesuvius are still fresh upon the minds of people throughout the civilized world the appalling news was being flashed over the globe that a seismic disturbance in San Francisco early this morning had caused the death of over two thousand persons, demolished fifty blocks of buildings and started a disastrous conflagration. The earthquake shocks have been noticed almost from the Pacific to the Atlantic. The disaster at San Francisco is one of a series of terrible convulsions of nature which have during the past few years wrought death and destruction in different parts of the world. It seems that we live in a day of wholesale calamities wrought by forces of nature.

MAXIM GORKY, the Russian socialist, revolutionist and disturber of peace generally, who came to this country to teach Americans a few things which he thought they should know, has been turned out of the New York hotels because it was discovered that the woman he was traveling with as his wife is not his wife at all. His lawful and dutiful wife with his children is in Russia, while Gorky is on a "reform" trip with an actress masquerading as his wife. He was surprised that the Americans should take notice of such a little affair as this, which he regards as entirely private and personal—something with which other people have nothing at all to do. He has received a severe jolt, however, and now realizing that his ideas of morals are at variance with those of the people of this country and that his reform-money-making tour has ended disastrously before it was fairly started he has opened his eyes to the fact that the Americans should take notice of such a little affair as this, which he regards as entirely private and personal—something with which other people have nothing at all to do. He has received a severe jolt, however, and now realizing that his ideas of morals are at variance with those of the people of this country and that his reform-money-making tour has ended disastrously before it was fairly started he has opened his eyes to the fact that the Americans should take notice of such a little affair as this, which he regards as entirely private and personal—something with which other people have nothing at all to do.

As WILL be seen by an item in the local columns of the Gazette, Hon. J. F. Rixey, by reason of no opposition today, becomes the democratic nominee for Congress from this, the Eighth, district and his nomination will be officially declared by the democratic committee which will meet in this city on Friday. Mr. Rixey has served in Congress for ten years and has represented his constituents faithfully and well; indeed it has been many years since this district has been so well represented in the House. He is attentive to his duties, untiring in his efforts to promote the interests of his district, and with an eye always to the welfare of the country at large.

From Washington.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.] Washington, April 18. For nearly four hours this forenoon Washington felt the tremble of an earthquake, the most severe that has been recorded here in years, if ever before on the delicate instruments of the Weather Bureau. While registered as severe on the seismograph, the rocking was not perceptible to persons on the streets, or in the building. When the first reports of the earthquake in San Francisco were received in Washington by the Publishers' Press, the officials of the Weather Bureau at once began an inspection of the seismograph. Dr. Martin, in charge of the instrument division, said it showed the quaking of the earth since about 8 o'clock. Shortly after that hour the shock was so severe that the needle was thrown entirely off the sheet on which the record is made. The unusual tremblings continued for half an hour and gradually became less and less. By 11 o'clock the deviations of the needle was becoming rare. Owing to the fact that the seismograph had just been relocated the vibrations of the earth in an north and south direction were not recorded, the record showing only that in an east and west direction. The duration of the quaking led Dr. Martin to conclude that the origin of the earthquake is many thousands of miles away and although he was unable to examine the record while it was being recorded, was inclined to believe that the origin was far beyond San Francisco. The record which was then being made resembled very much the earthquake that occurred in January, 1906, felt here, but originating in South America. He is inclined to believe that the present shocks have no connection with the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius. Earthquakes, he said, are likely to attend the volcanic eruption in the immediate vicinity of the volcano, but not at such distances as this.

At 12:30 this afternoon seismographs at the Weather Bureau was still recording earthquake vibrations, but the oscillations of the needle were becoming less noticeable. The War Department was in communication with San Francisco for about two minutes this morning shortly after the earthquake. The San Francisco operator stated that the disaster was great; that it was reported that more than 1,000 had been killed; that the dead and injured were then being taken out of the danger zone; that the water supply had been cut off and that there were fears of a general conflagration. Fires had already broken out in several places. In case the government is called upon to render aid to earthquake sufferers in San Francisco, the War Department is amply able to meet contingencies.

Californians in Washington received information from Sacramento that a heavy earthquake, severe enough to stop the clocks occurred there at 5:15 a. m. Between Susan and Veneta three miles of railroad track sunk out of sight, taking with it the telegraph lines. The chimneys of factories and houses were torn down at Tracy. The campaign incident to the election of a president-general of the Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution in 1907 has been put in full swing at the fifteenth Continental Congress now in session here. Mrs. Donald McLean, the present occupant of that position, will seek another term, and the rumor is going the rounds that Mrs. Fairbanks, wife of the Vice-President, vice president-general, made eligible for the 2nd term by amendment to the constitution, will again seek the honor. Mrs. Fairbanks and Mrs. McLean will vie with each other today in the social side of the organization, both giving receptions. Each is invited to the other's function; neither will, in all probability, attend. The daughters were slow in taking their seats for this morning's session. State regents or vice State regents made reports and this feature is always regarded by the daughters as a trying-out contest for ambitious candidates. The report of Mrs. Walter Harvey Weed, vice State regent of Montana, and the central figure in the "Montana case," in pleading the State's loyalty to its president-general and the intention of the Montana daughters to be at the Jamestown Exposition, is said to have won many supporters in the South. So far State regents and vice-State regents have been elected by the various delegations as follows: New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, South Carolina, Rhode Island, Maine and New Hampshire. A large part of the morning session was devoted to consideration of amendments to the constitution.

President Roosevelt this afternoon sent a message to Congress urging remedial legislation in the matter of immunity to persons questioned by the Bureau of Corporations and the Interstate Commerce Commission, and also advocating the passage of a law granting the right of appeal to the government in criminal cases wherein the defendant has not yet been actually put on trial on the merits of the case. These recommendations grow out of the recent decision of Judge Humphrey, of the Federal Court at Chicago, in the beef trust cases, whose interpretation of the will of Congress, the President declares, "comes measurably near making the law a farce." President Roosevelt today received through Senator Simmons, of North Carolina, a letter from ex-Governor Charles D. Aycock, declining to serve as a delegate to the Pan-American Congress, which is to be held at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Gov. Aycock gives as his reason that he is engaged in important private business that he cannot leave. President Roosevelt had a conference this morning with Frank Monnett, former Attorney General of Ohio, who represents the independent oil interests of Kansas and Indian Territory. Mr. Monnett wishes another investigation of the Standard Oil Company's operations in the territory mentioned. The French naval attaché, Commander de Lamond de Lajolle, left Washington this afternoon in company with Lieutenant Edmund T. Consten, U. S. N., for Old Point, to meet the French naval squadron on its way to Annapolis to take part in the John Paul Jones celebration next Tuesday. Mr. Consten will extend the greetings of the Navy Department to the visitors. They will board the Siren at Old Point Thursday evening and meet the French ships outside the capes. There will be long months of torture in prospect for a dozen or more railroad companies and hundreds of railroad officials and coal magnates when Chas. R. Hughes, of New York, the insurance inquisitor, and Alexander Simpson, jr., of Philadelphia, undertake their consideration of alleged violation by the coal carriers of the interstate commerce law and the Sherman anti-trust law.

Secretary of the Treasury Shaw, after a conference with President Roosevelt this afternoon concerning the government officials under charges at Buffalo, announced that he would suspend Fred O. Murray, collector of customs.

Secretary McCall of the Department of Commerce and Labor has a plan for saving the government thousands of dollars annually expended for material services. He has prepared a bill and forwarded it to Congress, providing that employees in the various departments be authorized to serve government officials, making cash in regard to official matters in the routine business coming up in their work. This service would be performed without compensation.

It is possible that the European trip planned by Congressman Longworth, of Ohio, will be postponed. It was the intention of Mr. Longworth to depart early in June. The fact that Congress will probably be in session beyond that time has already made him consider the advisability of delaying his departure. Moreover, he has received disturbing news from Cincinnati to the effect that he may have opposition for the renomination to Congress. Mr. and Mrs. Longworth will be in Cincinnati early in May to attend the May Festival, and Mr. Longworth will take a look at the condition of his fences at that time. If they are in badly dilapidated condition he will remain to repair them. Mr. Longworth doesn't stand squarely on the same platform with his father-in-law so far as the latest Roosevelt doctrine—that of a progressive tax on swollen fortunes—is concerned. It is said that the appointment of B. F. Barnes as postmaster of this city will be confirmed by the Senate.

The House committee on banking and currency today authorized a favorable report on the Fowler bill "for the current deposit of public money," it provides that receipts from customs like other public moneys, shall be deposited with national banking associations designated for that purpose by the Secretary of the Treasury.

News of the Day.

The dormant volcano at Palmas, Canary Island, is showing signs of an eruption.

The army appropriation bill as reported to the Senate yesterday carries \$71,328,144.

The United States District Court at Kansas City, Mo., yesterday denied the plea of immunity filed by railroads accused of violating the Elkins law.

A freight train ran into the rear of the New York Express on the Pennsylvania Railroad at New Florence, Pa., last night and nine passengers were injured.

The trial of Rev. Algernon S. Crapsey, accused of heresy, has been postponed for seven days because his counsel claimed he has not had time to prepare his case.

Mr. Foster, of Louisiana, spoke nearly three hours on the rat bill in the Senate yesterday and caused considerable surprise by declaring outright for a broad court review.

In the Senate yesterday Mr. Tillman read a letter from a prominent banker asserting his belief that Chairman Cyclopedia and Mr. Roosevelt knew all about the contributions of banks to the republican campaign fund.

Two more deaths were reported yesterday as the result of the explosion on the battleship Kearsage last Friday. Frederick Thomas Fisher, chief gunner's mate, died Sunday night, April 15, and James S. McArdle, electrician, first class died April 16.

The discovery of a cavern, and a late while blasting for a building foundation in Charleston, W. Va., has alarmed the inhabitants of that place, who fear they may be precipitated into the cavern. It is now being explored, and is said to be of large dimensions.

Mr. John B. Smyth, foreman of the document room, government printing office, died suddenly at his residence, in Washington, Monday night. He was a native of Scotland, a member of Kemper Lodge of Masons, Falls Church, and also of Mount Vernon Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of this city.

It is not expected that Senator Gorman will be well enough to return to the Senate in time to vote on the railroad rate bill. Senator Gorman yesterday, sent for Senator Bailey, of Texas, and informed him of this fact. He told the Texas Senator, however, that he would leave the matter entirely in his hands as to how he should be paired on the bill and amendments to it. It is not believed Senator Gorman will appear in the Senate again this session. He is recovering his strength very slowly.

Five hundred men were laid off and 12 sea-going tugboats and 59 barges were taken out of service yesterday by the Philadelphia and Reading Railway Company. The boats were used in the coal shipping business of the company. O. L. Hagerman, shipping and freight agent, was notified to tie up all of the vessels used in the coal traffic and to lay off all of the men who were employed in this connection. The possibility of a strike in the anthracite region is said to be responsible for the order taking the vessels out of service.

Judge G. Harry Davis, of the Common Pleas Court, one of the best known jurists in Pennsylvania, died in Philadelphia this morning. Heart disease was the cause of death.

Fifty-ninth Congress.

Washington, April 18. SENATE. After the transaction of miscellaneous business, the Senate adjourned at 12:30 noon on motion of Mr. Tillman, who announced that it might aid in reaching a solution of the railway rate question, by permitting the democratic Senators to confer.

HOUSE.

The conference report on the pension appropriation bill was agreed to in the House today. Andrew D. White, of New York, was reappointed a member of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

Say There's Nothing to Arbitrate.

A subcommittee of presidents of the anthracite coal carrying railroads and mine operators held a meeting in New York yesterday and drew up a letter to President John Mitchell, of the United Mine workers of America, in which the operators again declare that there is nothing to arbitrate except the question whether there shall be any arbitration. This reply is made in response to President Mitchell's recent announced proposition of arbitration. The operators do not, however, refuse pointblank to accept Mr. Mitchell's latest plan. They assert that all the differences between the miners and their employers have been decided by the strike commission, and that there is no reason why another attempt should be made to arbitrate. After describing the previous steps of the two sides and commenting upon the plans suggested by the miners, the operators aver that the miners have rejected all the propositions, and that they have nothing further to offer.

"The fundamental principles regarding the conduct of this business have all been established by the strike commission," the operators declare. "No reason is suggested why they should be retried. We have no further suggestions to make than those contained in our former propositions and we regret that we have declined both of them. We have nothing further to offer."

The operators assert also that the miners offer to waive formal recognition of the miners' union is not material, and declare that the miners' programme would increase the cost of domestic sizes of coal \$1.20 per ton.

Virginia News.

Edward G. Hollis, clerk of the Winchester Common Councils and deputy clerk of the Circuit Court, was paralyzed at his home Monday night and is now seriously ill.

Mrs. Courtney W. Selden, widow of Robert Selden, died Sunday at her home, Sherwood, Gloucester county, aged 91 years. She is survived by one son and three daughters.

A new bank known as the Farmers and Mechanics' Bank, with a capital stock of \$100,000 will be established in Fredericksburg in the near future. M. G. Willis of that city will be president.

Dr. Alex. C. Fitzpatrick, for many years a prominent physician; seven or eight times a member of the House of Delegates, and a popular and prominent citizen, died at his home in Nelson county, Saturday night. He was about seventy-five years of age.

Mr. Joseph Button, recently elected Commissioner of Insurance of Virginia, has tendered his resignation to Governor Swanson as clerk of the Senate and it has been accepted. The Governor will appoint Mr. T. A. Lynch, of Tazewell, to serve out Colonel Button's unexpired term.

The Board of Governors of the Masonic Home of Virginia held their April meeting in the Masonic Temple in Richmond, Monday. Much business was transacted. Mrs. H. M. Barbour was unanimously elected superintendent for the ensuing year. Mrs. Barbour has managed the Home in a very satisfactory manner for over five years.

Four men were wounded, one of them seriously, in a shooting affray, yesterday morning, following a dispute about the ownership of some land about twelve miles from Gate City. William Carter, his two sons, and his son-in-law went to the land to take possession. They were resisted by Jeremiah McMurray and several friends, who opened fire on the Carters, seriously wounding William Carter. The Carters returned the fire, wounding three men. Carter has been a magistrate and supervisor in his district.

Messrs. Davis & Davis, Washington patent attorneys, report the grant, this week, to citizens of this State, of the following patents: Joel A. Copridge and T. B. Stultz, of Roanoke, hot-water heater; George P. Craighill and G. A. Ketter, of Lynchburg, treating wool for the production of paper pulp, terpenes and resinous substances; Samuel J. Grubb, of Dooley, Geopline or seat for the railway-rails; John C. Smith, of Lynchburg, hangman's scaffold and William M. Taylor, of Mecklenburg, auxiliary rudder.

The Corporation Commission assembled in Richmond yesterday to hear argument on the classification of railroad freight rates. By request of the two score or more of lawyers representing the railroads, the railroads were allowed until May 15 to make supplemental replies to the schedules furnished by the commission, and the hearing was postponed until June 5. An effort was made by the railroad representatives to have the two cent rate bill heard at the same time, but the commission held that the freight rate bill was a mature subject and the two-cent rate a new question, and they could not consider them together.

Royal Arcanum.

The twenty-fourth session of the Grand Council, Royal Arcanum, began in Richmond yesterday. The meeting was called to order by Dr. W. H. Ewald, of Portsmouth, grand regent. All the officers were present and about 150 members. The annual reports show a sound state of health and activity.

The election of officers resulted as follows: First Supreme Representative, Rev. F. T. McFadden, of Richmond; Second Supreme Representative, A. T. Lincoln, of Marion; First Alternate, Dr. W. H. Ewald, of Portsmouth; Second Alternate, R. W. Arnold, of Alexandria; Grand Regent, W. M. Bickers, of Richmond; Grand Vice-Regent, H. E. Avery, of Norfolk; Past Grand Regent, Dr. W. H. Ewald, of Portsmouth; Grand Secretary, J. B. Blanks, of Petersburg; Grand Treasurer, A. B. Bots, of Fredericksburg; Grand Chaplain, W. T. Dabney, of Richmond; Grand Guide, James McCurdy, of Roanoke; Grand Warden, Mollie Folkes, of Richmond; Grand Sentry, Harry Kemp, of Richmond; Grand Trustee, for three years, H. Hodges, of Norfolk; member of executive committee, J. T. O'Connor, of Portsmouth; member of committee on laws, J. Frank Garber, of Staunton; member of committee on finance, H. A. Allen, of Lynchburg. The officers were installed at this morning's session by Supreme Past Regent W. Holt Appar, of New Jersey.

Land Sales.

The Samuel Coleman farm, near Herndon, has been purchased by Mrs. E. L. Woodson, of Indian Territory. This place was once a rendezvous of Brodbeck's army en route to Fort Duquesne.

The heirs of the late Gen. McKee Dunn have sold a tract of 3,168 acres, near Herndon, to the Fairfax lumber company.

R. H. Thayer, of Loudoun county, has purchased the Smith estate, in lower Loudoun.

Virginia Militia.

Major Edward Chynoweth, Seventeenth infantry, United States army, completed his inspections of the Virginia volunteers at Fredericksburg on April 16, on which date he inspected Company L, Seventeenth infantry.

Major Chynoweth expressed himself as pleased with the showing made by the Virginia militia, and the efforts which a number of the commanding officers are making toward raising their commands to a high state of excellence.

Jr. O. U. A. M.

The State convention of the Junior Order United American Mechanics opened in Richmond yesterday. Counselor Eugene Colver, of Berkeley, presided. Vice-Counselor J. W. Jones, of Vienna, and Past Counselor J. C. Jewell, of Richmond, were present, and 100 delegates. Reports show that the order is in a prosperous condition.

Last night the local councils gave a banquet to the visitors.

Fewer Gallons; Wears Longer. Fewer gallons, takes less of Devco Lead and Zinc than mixed paints. Wears longer; twice as long as lead and oil.

Earthquake in San Francisco

Three Thousand Persons Killed—Fifty Blocks of Business Houses Destroyed—Fire Adding to the Horrors Incident to the Convulsion—Water Works Ruined—Blowing Up Buildings to Prevent Spread of Fire.

San Francisco, April 18.—An earthquake this morning wrecked the Hobart building in which is located the offices of the Postal Telegraph Company and the Northern Pacific Railway Company.

The earthquake was a disastrous one. Many people are reported killed, houses wrecked and fired. There is no water.

At 5:50 a. m. frequent shocks were felt after the first severe quake. At that time the postal employees had to flee from the building. Great loss of life is feared. That portion of San Francisco in which the Postal Telegraph building is located is the principal business section of the city.

The great Call (newspaper) building, a sky scraper, is a stone's throw away, and so is the high Chronicle building. The district is the line between the wholesale business section and includes practically the largest blocks of the city. The Page-Ferry railway bridge is less than half a mile away. The beautiful public fountain on Market street, given to the city by the actress Lotta, is a close neighbor of the Postal building. But two or three blocks away is Union Square in which is located the great Dewey monument commemorating the battle of Manila. The limits of Chinatown are but a half mile away. Big Frisco buildings and streets were practically deserted of people as early as six o'clock in the morning. Business does not begin until about nine o'clock, and it was after eight o'clock before the streets became at all business looking.

The mint and new postoffice and the magnificent City Hall are nearly a dozen blocks distant from the postal building. At 6:30 o'clock the earthquakes were still being felt. San Francisco, April 18.—Through a break in the coast range the San Francisco river flows through to the Great bay inside the Golden Gate. San Francisco lies at the river's mouth. The city was reclaimed from a desert of hills and wet sand. Big hotels stand today where fishing was good in the 50's. Most of the houses in the residence district are wood and insurance men look askance when asked to guarantee the residents against fire loss. But business men rely on a splendid fire department, and built some of the finest office buildings in the world. As a whole, the city is not especially well built. A large proportion of the inhabitants are foreigners.

San Francisco has a \$6,000,000 city hall; one hotel with 1,400 rooms, then open throughout the year; a public library of 120,000 volumes; a public bath accommodating 2,000; and a population of 360,000. The postal office was damaged, but not seriously. None of the occupants were killed, but many were injured and killed in the city. The water mains burst, and the fire department was helpless. Now blowing up buildings.

San Francisco, April 18.—An early estimate places the loss of life at over 1,100. At 7 o'clock the work of rescue was under way, but in an unorganized manner, owing to the panic. Dead were being carried from the buildings in scores.

The Postal Telegraph Company is advised that an area covered by the earthquake is about fifty blocks in which the buildings have been almost totally destroyed. The greatest damage was done east and south of Market street, to the bay. The city hall, costing \$7,000,000, is in ruins. This section is destroyed largely to manufacturing enterprises. The principal banking institutions are located in a quarter of the city which has not been seriously affected. According to advices received, almost all of life is now not yet known, although it is believed that it will be quite large.

Fire started in the ruined section and is spreading. Water mains supplying that district have been destroyed, and buildings in the adjoining sections are now being dynamited to prevent the spread of the flames.

The Western Union Telegraph Company is in receipt of the following message from Sacramento: "We had a heavy earthquake at 5:15 a. m. All the clocks stopped at that hour. There are three miles of railroad bed sunk out of sight between Susan and Beneta, and all telegraph wires were taken with it. At Pleasanton several railroad cars were turned over on the main line, blockading the tracks. At Tracy all of the chimneys were torn down."

Another Western Union dispatch from Sacramento reads: "Sacramento had trouble. A big fire is raging in Berkeley, a suburb of Oakland, and it is thought the town is on fire."

Denver, Col., April 18.—Information has been received that the fire at San Francisco is reaching beyond the big Pacific Hotel.

New Orleans, April 18.—A Southern Pacific Railway wire message says at 10 o'clock a number of fires have started in San Francisco and as the waterworks cannot be operated, there was danger of the entire city being burned, as the wind is blowing severely. Dead and injured were being removed as fast as possible, but the panic is so great that but little headway is being made. It is impossible to tell the extent of the loss of life, but it is believed to be very great. The most danger now seems to be from fire.

Cleveland, O., April 18.—A dispatch from San Francisco to the local office of H. O. Brown & Co., brokers, at 8:30 a. m., said:

"An earthquake this morning wrecked the Hobart building in which is located the offices of the Postal Telegraph Company and the Southern Pacific Railroad Company. The earthquake was a disastrous one. Many people are reported killed. Houses have been wrecked and fired. There is no water. At 5:55 frequent shocks were felt after the first earthquake. At that time the postal employees had to flee from the building. A special wire from New York to A. O. Brown & Co., at 8:45 a. m., said the entire business district of San Francisco was destroyed by the earthquake."

Ash Fork, Arizona, April 18.—Reports of the earthquake shock at San Francisco received here say that the first rumble was heard at 5:10 o'clock. Buildings toppled and fell in every direction. The police patrol is carrying the dead from the buildings. Fire broke out in the wholesale house district, this water front, and other localities, with no water to fight it.

Chicago, April 18.—First telegraphic communication with San Francisco was established by the Publishers Press Association before 10 o'clock this morning. A dispatch from the San Francisco correspondent says:

The most severe earthquake in the history of the city occurred at 5:13 this morning. Scores of buildings were ruined. The Lock House was wrecked and other hotels were damaged. Reports tell of great loss of life, but details are unobtainable on account of the great confusion among the people who search through the debris in the hope of finding missing friends. Wires are down in all directions. Flames broke out in the ruins and are now raging in a dozen sections. Fire engine houses were damaged. Engines that escaped are of little use because water is lacking. The city is at the mercy of the conflagration. Dynamite is being used in blowing up buildings to stop the spread of the flames. The city hall was badly wrecked. The people are panic stricken and crowd the streets.

New York, April 18.—The Rock Island Railroad Company has received the following message from its Chicago offices, time 11:45 a. m.:

"San Francisco is being wiped out by continuous quakes and flames. Fire is working towards the docks unmolested. Water works are out of commission. Estimated dead, 1,100."

A dispatch from San Jose says that the whole city of San Francisco is being entirely wiped out by fire. From the highest elevation fires can be seen in every direction.

Portland, Oregon, April 18.—The Pacific States Telegraph and Telephone reports that its main exchange on Bush street, San Francisco, is in flames. It adjoins the Mills building. An explosion blew the top off the telephone building. It is doomed, as there is no water supply on account of the cracked mains. Many lives are reported lost. The Mills building is in danger. Many fires in different sections of the city are reported.

Cincinnati, April 18.—The following bulletin was received by the Western Union, here at 11:45 this morning:

"San Francisco, April 18.—The fire is beyond control. It is now destroying Market street and has reached the Palace Hotel. Both the Western Union and Postal Building are completely destroyed. This loss of life is now estimated at 2,000."

Los Angeles, Cal., April 18.—San Francisco and this city report loss from shock and results of the fire will reach into millions. A hundred buildings are burning in the section razed by the shock. The streets are filled with debris. Fire which started in the business section now is being fought with dynamite, but there is little progress in checking the flames. Nobody was injured here.

Los Angeles, Cal., April 18.—The business section of San Francisco is in ruins and a fearful holocaust is raging, the result of a terrific earthquake at 5:15 o'clock this morning. Thousands of persons are probably dead. Three hundred bodies have been taken into Mechanics' Pavilion which had been transformed into a morgue and more bodies are arriving every minute. The quake shattered the water mains, and the fire department is unable to combat the flames. Fires are burning in a dozen places. The utter ruin of the business section is inevitable. It is fearful catastrophe. The fire is nearing the Palace Hotel, at this hour, seven o'clock.

From Montgomery street east to the water front the city is in flames. Three hundred bodies have been taken from the ruins.

Sacramento, Cal., April 18.—The strongest quake in fifteen years occurred here at 5:15 o'clock this morning. The vibrations were northeast, and southwest last three minutes. They awoke the entire city and caused a panic in the hotels.

San Francisco, April 18.—The last shock was felt at 8:15. The ferries are all engaged carrying people to Oakland, and other points of safety. The people are fleeing from the city by thousands. In the panic many dropped dead in the streets.

San Francisco, April 18.—A second shock followed the one of early this morning, about three hours later. It toppled over many buildings that still stood. Fire chief Sullivan and Police-man Frenier were killed beneath the ruins and soldiers are being rushed from the Presidio.

In Mission street hundreds of dead have been found in the ruins of cheap lodging houses. Flames drive away the police, firemen and volunteers before bodies can be reached. Even the cries of injured are heard, but frequently they cry in vain, and torture awaits them, as approaching tongues of hungry flames drive rescuers back to save their own lives.

Berkeley is reported to be destroyed. It is the swell suburb and residence section across the bay. Millions are by the score have their homes there. San Francisco is a ball of fire.

New York, April 18.—Western Union advices from San Francisco, received here at 1:10 p. m., states that the damage in Berkeley, Oakland, and other places in the vicinity of San Francisco, is severe, but it is not thought that many lives were lost on that side of the bay. Railroad trains are running, but slowly, because of no train wire service. The ground below Kearney street sank about four feet. In Valencia street the ground sank nearly ten feet in places. A similar conditions exists in the Chinese district.

Fort Worth, Tex., April 18.—At 10:30 o'clock information reached this city that so far, 700 dead bodies have been recovered from the ruins of collapsed buildings in San Francisco and the property loss will reach \$30,000,000. From all information obtainable the cities of San Francisco and Sacramento are the chief sufferers although the force of the seismic disturbances was felt over considerable area. Later information received says that many buildings have collapsed and the dead and injured are

being reached as fast as possible. Dallas, Tex., April 18.—A Postal Telegraph bulletin just received says that the loss of life in San Francisco is now estimated at 3,000. The city looks, from a point of view, where the telegraph wires are located, to be a seething mass of flame. The fire territory is more than two miles square and one solid body, and other fires are scattered over the city.

Congressman Blackburn's Trial. Greensboro, N. C. April 18.—The demurrer in the case of Congressman Blackburn, charged with accepting fees for practicing before the government departments while a Congressman, was overruled by Judge Goff, and the defendant placed on trial this morning.

Mr. Blackburn entered a plea of not guilty to the five consolidated indictments found against him. A jury was soon secured. The line of the defense will be that the Congressman never accepted fees except for appearing in the courts. The trial promises to be a lengthy one.

Plot Against Sultan. Geneva, Switzerland, April 18.—The Turkish consul here, Dr. H. H. warned the authorities that he has discovered a plot against the life of the Sultan, which had been hatched by the Central organization of young Turks here and high officials who recently arrived from Constantinople. The alleged plotters to "remove" the Sultan deny the statement made by the Turkish Consul, and declare that it was made to get them expelled from Swiss territory.

New York Stock Market. New York, April 18.—The calmness in the stock market was the result of a lessening the trading during the greater part of the first hour. All houses with western connections were heavy sellers of stocks at and since the opening. Under the conflagration pressure from many sources, prices around lower all around. In the later trading the coal investigation, a firmer tone was money, and renewed labor trouble were used as bear orders after the San Francisco disaster had exerted its influence.

Disorder in France. There was a renewal yesterday of the disturbances consequent on the strike of miners in the Pas de Calais district of France. The wife of a miner who had refused to strike was attacked in her home by 150 women, the wives of strikers, her clothing torn off, and her furniture wrecked. Gendarmes who interfered to stop the riot were stoned by the women, and cavalry ordered to assist the gendarmes were similarly resisted.

A cavalry officer and two soldiers were severely injured and fifteen others received minor wounds. Several women were arrested. The general prefect was received with shouts of "long live revolution!"

Rioting was resumed last night. The local authorities are calling urgently for reinforcements.

Reckless were made at Lens yesterday morning to prevent non-striking from descending to the mines, and at Montigny an attempt was made to blow up a church with dynamite. Serious damage was done and a number of arrests were made.

Holstein Resigns. By direction of Emperor William, Foreign Secretary Toller, yesterday accepted the resignation of Baron von Holstein, chief of the department of higher politics in the foreign office of Germany. This action retires from public life a personage who more than any other has been responsible for German foreign affairs since Prince Bismarck's time. For sixteen years Baron von Holstein has thought out the policy and drawn up the instructions to Ambassadors, and he has been recognized by the diplomacy of Europe as the man whose counsel was in the ascendant at the foreign office under all of Prince Bismarck's successors. When Prince von Bismarck assumed the chancellorship he offered Baron von Holstein the foreign secretaryship, but the latter declined the office because parliamentary and social activity was distasteful to him. The cause of his retirement is that he found himself unable to work in harmony with Foreign Secretary Toller. Baron von Holstein was an attaché of the German embassy in Washington at the close of the civil war.